COUNCIL FOR INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION (CIC)
Review of Activities
June 1989 - April 1990

INTERNAL

1. Physical Resources :

CIC has been seriously handicapped by a lack of office space. At one point, three staff members shared a space suitable for one. Staff should all be commended for their efficiency under such unacceptable conditions. In January 1990, CIC expanded to allow one office per employee and a conference room/library.

CIC's minimal access to computer equipment caused serious difficulties at peak periods. The generosity of the Director and Assistant Director in offering personal computers alleviated the situation somewhat. All staff members are now equipped with adequate computer equipment.

2. Human Resources :

A redistribution of the work load was required by the departures of Dr. M. Singer and H. Brodie. Three internal planning sessions were held in order to identify a structure and plan of action for CIC's interim period of operation. E. Morey was seconded from the Rector's Office in June 1989 for a four month period. This arrangement was extended twice, now to 30 June 1990. The position of Assistant to the Director, Institutional Relations was filled by I. Gauthier. Due to the difficulty in finding adequate secretarial support, I. Gauthier accepted additional office management tasks. Her efforts ensured the continuity and efficiency of the operation. The Assistant to the Director, Faculty and Student Exchanges, Fred Francis holds a permanent position with CIC as a result of a transfer from the Dean of Students Office in October 1988. The secretarial position terminates 31 May 1990. A request has been made to Dr. J. Lightstone for an extension of the contracts for the Assistant to the Director, Institutional Relations and the Secretary to 31 May 1991.

3. Budget :

In the past, CIC's expenses were completely out of line with actual budget allocations. This was, no doubt, a conscious choice in order to illustrate graphically the financial needs of such an operation. Attempts have been made to further identify areas of financial need. Due to the interim structure of CIC, no budget submission was made for the 1990-91 academic year. Dr. R. Sheinin has addressed this matter with the University Budget Committee.

4. Decentralization/Communication :

The lack of a clearly defined mandate for CIC resulted in an overextension of CIC's human and financial resources and, in certain instances, the development of a sense of mistrust in some areas of the University community.

A rationalization of tasks and greater use of appropriate services within the University have succeeded in somewhat simplifying CIC's activities and improving communication. Letters of request for information on admission to graduate programmes are now directed to Graduate Programme Directors. This year, the International Graduate Fee Remission Programme has been decentralized to the Faculties with coordination only by CIC.

All Faculties, the Division of Graduate Studies and the Centre for Continuing Education have each established a position responsible for international liaison (Attachment 1). Constant consultation and a flow of information on conferences, government regulations, funding sources, possible linkages, etc. have been encouraged.

Administration of the Joint Doctoral Training Programme in Engineering and Computer Science has been moved successfully to the Faculty of Engineering and Computer Science. Dr. T.S. Sankar is the principle administrator of the programme, Dr. T. Fancott oversees the academic programme, Mr. P. Bourassa handles the management and accounting tasks.

Activities relating to students, especially those on student exchange programmes are slowly being transferred to the International Student Advisor (ISA), Claudette Fortier. Collaboration with the ISA has increased with a variety of projects being initiated.

Regular consultation has occurred between CIC and the Centre for Continuing Education on various initiatives.

ACTIVITIES: ON-GOING

1) Existing linkages :

A great number of linkages exist between Faculties and Departments of CU and many institutions around the world. All linkages have been reviewed and updated over the past few months to ensure that they are still active and that information is relevant. The information received from the Faculties is now being entered into a database to allow quick access and updating. CIC has responded to inquiries from AUCC for recent information on all linkages for entry into their CUPID database. Only a portion of the linkage agreements will be addressed in this section of the report. The updated list of all agreements is attached (Attachment 2).

a) CHINA

Transition to an interim structure at CIC coincided, unfortunately, with tragic events in China. CIC's first commitment was to assist Chinese students at Concordia and those faculty members deeply affected. With the advice of Dr. M. Singer, Dr. G. Valaskakis and Dr. C.Y. Charron of UQAM, CIC provided information on the various aspects of changes in China to students, Faculties and faculty members concerned. Fax and telex machines were made available to Chinese students and scholars. CIC coordinated, for all Montréal universities

and with the support of the Canadian Bureau for International Education (CBIE), a project which provided a Chinese Student Advisor to address the needs of students and scholars from China. From September to December 1990, the Advisor provided assistance with immigration information, sources of financial aid, employment opportunities and personal problems. CIC also negotiated, with the CU administration, a Chinese Student Emergency Fund of $50,000 administered by the ISA (Attachment 3).

Southeast University (SEU): The Joint Doctoral Training Programme in Engineering and Computer Science, funded by CIDA's China Canada Linkage Programme (CCULP), is presently being administered by the Faculty. CIDA has expressed satisfaction with reports of the project. Six SEU students are now at Concordia. In September 1989, two representatives of SEU visited Concordia while Dean M.N.S. Swamy travelled to Nanjing in December 1989 to further discuss the programme. Concordia will be welcoming another two SEU representatives for a one-month period in June of this year. Dr. E. Newman was awarded an honourary consultancy in the area of Biomedical Engineering by the delegation from SEU on behalf of President Wei Yu. Negotiations are presently under way for the admission of an SEU scholar to a TESL programme. CIC was recently informed that China would no longer be sending students under CCULP agreements until further notice. We must wait to see what eventual effects such declarations may have on this project.

Shanghai International Studies University (SISU): The proposal for a Doctoral Training Programme in Educational Technology was completed with the assistance of the Faculty of Arts and Science and submitted to CCULP in July 1989. Information was received in late March 1990 that, although the project was an excellent one and was well-presented, SISU was not an eligible CCULP partner. It appears that the decision to submit a proposal with SISU was based on the CIDA funding termination date of June 1989 between SISU and Laval University. After consulting with AUCC, it has been confirmed that this funding had been extended to August 1992. Consequently, AUCC welcomes Concordia to re-submit to the next cycle with another Chinese partner.

Tianjin University: The Faculty of Commerce and Administration is partners with HEC and Tianjin University as lead university in a Canada-China Management Education Programme (CCMEP), Phase II. The Faculty will be sending faculty members to Tianjin and is presently training Tianjin students here. A delegation from Tianjin visited Concordia in the Fall 1989. The CU Coordinator, Dr. J.M. Bourjolly has recently returned from a visit to Tianjin where he was informed that Tianjin would no longer send any junior scholars, only senior scholars for a one month period. Such changes, should they occur, will drastically jeopardize this project.

Shanghai Jiao Tong University: In the context of this agreement, a Post-doctoral Fellowship in the Department of Mechanical Engineering has been offered to a Jiao Tong scholar for 1 April 1990.

b) OTHER

Indian Institute of Technology, Madras (IITM), INDIA: A proposal for a Joint Doctoral Programme in Engineering was revised with the assistance of the

Faculty of Engineering and Computer Science and submitted to CIDA's Educational Institutions Programme (EIP) in October 1989. Dean M.N.S. Swamy visited IITM in December 1989 to further develop the proposal. No information has as yet been received on the results of this submission.

University of Roorkee, INDIA: An Agreement of Cooperation initially in the area of Civil Engineering was finalized in the Summer 1989.

Ministry of Culture, POLAND: The agreement of cooperation between the Faculty of Fine Arts and the Polish Ministry is progressing extremely well and has had a important effect on the entire Faculty as noted in the report submitted to CIC by Dr. B. Mackay (Attachment 4).

Groningen University, THE NETHERLANDS: In August 1989, an Agreement of Academic Cooperation was signed. It presently focuses on the fields of Communication Studies, Journalism and Canadian and Dutch History. In accordance with this Agreement, a faculty exchange in the area of History has been confirmed for the Fall 1990 semester between Drs. G. Decarie and L. van Holthoon.

Pace University, USA: In July 1989, the Faculty of Commerce and Administration signed a Faculty and Student Exchange Agreement with Pace University Lubin Graduate School of Business within the context of the proposed Council for New York-Québec Business Studies. The details of this Agreement are presently under negotiation.

2) New and potential linkages :

College of the Negev, ISRAEL: Negotiations are presently under way on an agreement of collaboration between the Faculty of Arts and Science and the College of the Negev in Applied Social Science (APSS) and Communication Studies.

Institut National des langues et civilisations orientales (INALCO), FRANCE: The Department of Religion and INALCO have established a close relationship of cooperation.

COSTA RICA: CIC is presently working on finalizing arrangements for a delegation to visit the University of Costa Rica, the National University of Costa Rica, and CONOCIT in order to identify specific areas of cooperation. In light of recent events in Central America and Canada's recent entry into the Organization of American States (OAS), such a collaboration is most timely. CIDA has decentralized an office to Costa Rica. This will facilitate access to funding.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC: The University of Santo Domingo has proposed cooperation in the fields of Computer Science, TESL, Exercise Science and Spanish language training. An agreement of intent should be signed shortly.

University of EL SALVADOR: A coordinating office for support to the University of El Salvador has been established at McGill. CIC has initiated a flow of

information within Concordia on these events in order to identify possible areas of support at CU.

SOVIET UNION: Two high-level visits from the Soviet Union and negotiations with the Consulate of the USSR in Montréal have paved the way for cooperation as yet to be identified. Dr. P. Kenniff has been invited to visit the USSR in order to pursue possibilities. Recent events in the USSR and Eastern Europe underline the importance of such negotiations.

University of Cape Town, SOUTH AFRICA: CU has been approached regarding support to the development of programmes for black students in South Africa. A meeting is being organized to identify areas of cooperation and whether such activities would be appropriate for CU in light of developments in South Africa.

3) Initiatives :

HONG KONG: The Ministère des Affaires internationales du Québec (MAI) has requested a partnership with CU in a special project to promote the admission of students from Hong Kong. This innovative project which includes on-site admission and special recruitment and orientation packages, was originally negotiated with CIC and will be further developed by the Admissions Office and the ISA.

INDONESIA: CIC was approached by Cogesult, a management training company, for a women in management training programme for Indonesia. With the Centre for Continuing Education and the Simone de Beauvoir Institute, a submission was made and accepted by Cogesult who will now negotiate with CIDA for final approval. The Centre for Continuing Education has also made a bid through World University Services of Canada (WUSC) on a management training programme for Indonesian administrators. CIC was consulted a number of times on this project.

EASTERN EUROPE: Initial contacts have been made with the Eastern Europe desk of the MAI in order to identify the possibility of involvement by CU in the changing situation in that area.

AIDS PROJECT: L'Université Laval has been awarded funding by CIDA for a major AIDS project in Africa. Laval has requested CU's involvement in the project. Preliminary negotiations are under way as to the feasibility of CU's participation.

KENYA HIGH COMMISSION: CIC coordinated the signing of an agreement by the Vice-Rector, Academic with the Kenya High Commission for services to their scholarship students at Concordia. This project is being administered by the ISA.

CBIE: CIC coordinated the signing of an agreement by the Vice-Rector, Academic with CBIE for support services for students studying under their programmes. This project is being administered by the ISA.